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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of September)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased in September for the third consecutive month. The land crew total decreased by three to 84, and the marine crew total decreased for the sixth consecutive month to fourteen, a net total decrease of four crews, to 98 crews. **This total establishes a new low number of crews and vessels working in the United States since SEG instigated its monthly survey in May of 1974, and marks the first time the total number of crews and vessels operating in the U.S. has fallen below 100 crews.**

The September total (98) represents a decrease of 4% from last month, a 22% decrease from September, 1990, a 29% decrease from September, 1989, a 46% decrease from September, 1988, a 49% decrease from September, 1987, a 37% decrease from September, 1986, and **a decrease of 74% from the same month in 1985.**

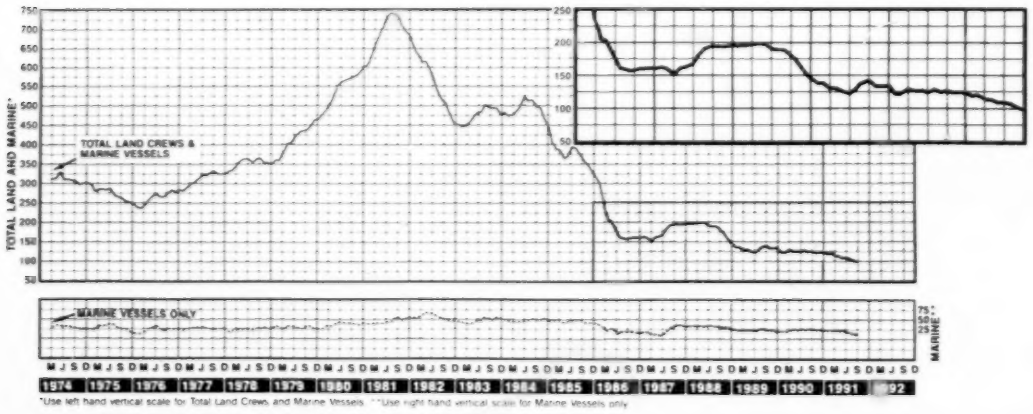
During September, three contractors were operating five of the 78 land crews and one of the twelve marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 98	Last Month 102	Sept'90 126	Sept'89 138	Sept'88 181	Sept'87 193	Sept'86 155	Sept'85 372

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Sept 1990	Sept 1989	Sept 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1986	Sept 1985	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Sept 1990	Sept 1989	Sept 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1986	Sept 1985
33 Contr's:	78	81	93	104	136	151	114	290	12	13	23	21	25	26	20	43
4 Oil Co's:	6	6	8	10	15	13	17	33	2	2	2	3	4	3	4	6
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	84	87	101	114	151	164	131	323	14	15	25	24	30	29	24	49

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
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1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992

*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

SEG SEISMIC CREW COUNT
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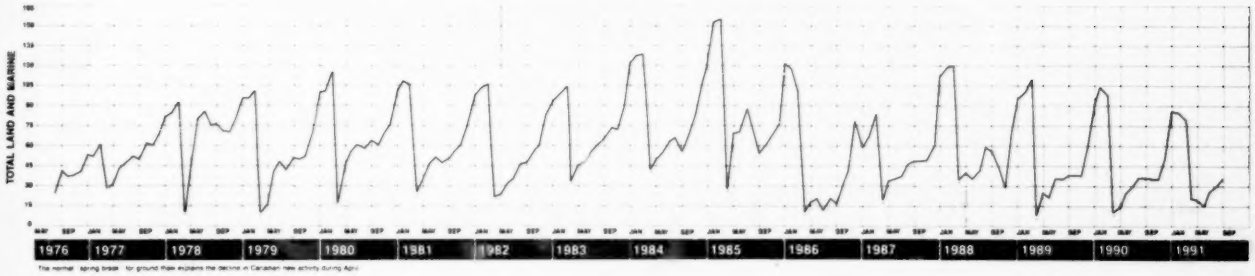
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

September, 1991 (August figures in parentheses)

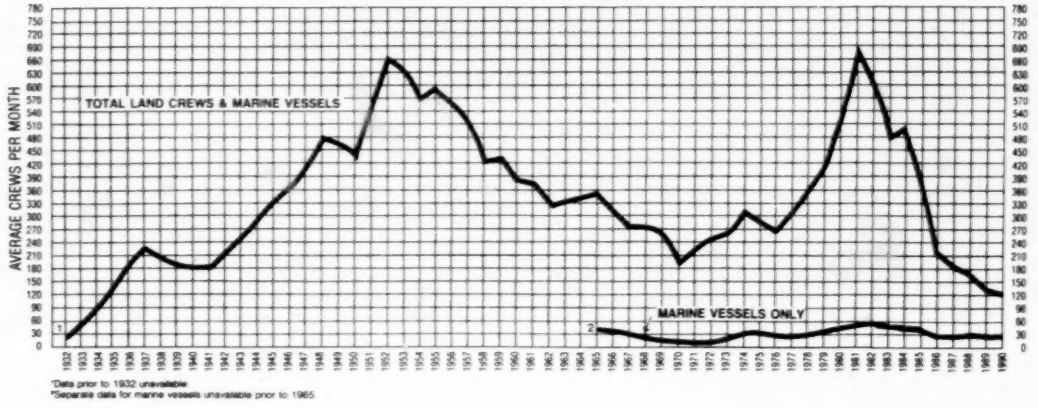
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
13 Contractors:	19 (26)	3 (4)
0 Oil Companies:	0 (0)	0 (0)
Totals:	22 (26)	3 (4)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



*Data prior to 1932 unavailable
*Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965